

TUSCOLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
February 13, 2014 Minutes
H. H. Purdy Building

Commissioner Thomas Bardwell called the meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Tuscola, Michigan, held at the H.H. Purdy Building in the City of Caro, Michigan, on the 13th day of February, 2014 to order at 7:30 o'clock a.m. local time.

Prayer – Commissioner Bierlein

Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Trisch

Roll Call – Clerk Fetting

Commissioners Present: District 1 - Roger Allen (excused at 8:59 a.m.),
District 2 – Thomas Bardwell, District 3 – Christine Trisch, District 4 – Craig Kirkpatrick,
District 5 – Matthew Bierlein

Commissioners Absent: None

Also Present: Mike Hoagland, Clerk Jodi Fetting, Mary Drier, Tisha Jones, Mike Miller, Bob Klenk, Brad Barrett, Bill Bushaw, Steve Erickson, Peter Christiano, Christine Young, Erica Dibble, Register John Bishop, Walt Schlichting, Karen Easterling, Charles Kurtansky, Louraine Kurtansky

14-M-019

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Trisch to adopt the agenda as amended. Motion Carried.

14-M-020

Motion by Kirkpatrick, seconded by Trisch to adopt the meeting minutes from the January 29, 2014 meeting. Motion Carried.

Consent Agenda Resolution -

14-M-021

Motion by Kirkpatrick, seconded by Bierlein that the following Consent Agenda Resolution be adopted. Motion Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Agenda Reference:** A
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 2/10/14
- Description of Matter:** Move that because Mosquito Abatement Technician's wages have remained the same for 14 years at \$8.25 per hour and because the Director has not been able to retain and attract new hires effective with the 2014 season Technician wages be increased to \$9.25 per hour. (It should be noted the cost of this wage change was off-set by an office reorganization a few months ago that reduced costs by nearly \$24,000).
- Agenda Reference:** B
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 2/10/14
- Description of Matter:** Move to support the Huron County resolution supporting HB 5215 which would require the State to reimburse a local tax collecting entity for revenue lost as a result of PA 161 of 2013 that enacted certain exemptions for disabled veterans pertaining to the payment of property taxes.
- Agenda Reference:** C
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 2/10/14
- Description of Matter:** Move to support the Huron County resolution supporting HB 5253 that would allow continued collaboration between Tuscola and Huron Counties for Equalization Director services which results in taxpayer savings in both counties. Also, this resolution be forwarded to all appropriate parties.
- Agenda Reference:** D
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 2/10/14
- Description of Matter:** Move to support the Bay and Huron County resolutions requesting the state to restore State General Fund appropriations to the Tuscola County Behavioral Health systems. Also, this resolution be forwarded to all appropriate parties.
- Agenda Reference:** E
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 2/10/14

- Description of Matter:** Move that per the recommendation of corporate council that Medical Examiner Investigators be established as Independent Contractors. Also, the Independent Contractor Agreement as recommended by the labor attorney be approved for the individuals appointed by the Medical Examiner as Medical Examiner Investigators. Also, Independent Contractor Agreements be authorized for signature.
- Agenda Reference:** F
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 2/10/14
- Description of Matter:** Move that the county hiring freeze be clarified by stating it is intended to also apply to both full-time and part-time employees. Irregular part-time employees that do not require a budget increase can be replaced without going through the hiring freeze process.
- Agenda Reference:** G
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 2/10/14
- Description of Matter:** Move that the County Clerk be requested to advertise to refill the vacancy on the Recycling Advisory Committee.
- Agenda Reference:** H
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 2/10/14
- Description of Matter:** Move that Matt Bierlein be appointed and Jerry Peterson be reappointed to the Human Development Commission Board of Directors.
- Agenda Reference:** I
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 2/10/14
- Description of Matter:** Move that per the recommendation of the Mosquito Abatement Director that the individuals listed in the February 3, 2014 memorandum be authorized to be hired as seasonal employees for the season.

Brief Public Comment Period - Walt Schlichting has spoke with Ray Cortez regarding the progress on the GIS system. Ray has had success in gathering information. The City of Vassar has been very helpful. Ray believes options are available that will be more affordable than first thought.

New Business

-911 Surcharge Notification to Providers - Bob Klenk reviewed the correspondence received by the Clerk. The surcharge for 911 is not going to be increased. Bob Klenk will complete the necessary paperwork and send in.

-Project Lifesaver -

14-M-022

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Kirkpatrick that the Undersheriff is authorized to review funding sources outside of the county to initiate "Project Lifesaver". This program involves the use of electronic bracelets that can be used by people with dementia and other related diseases that allows law enforcement and other agencies to locate people who may have become lost.

-2013 Homeland Security Projects -

14-M-027

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Kirkpatrick that per the recommendation of the Emergency Services Director, the county pursue Region 3 Homeland Security 2013 grant funds (Estimated at \$80,000) for the items determined necessary by the All Hazards Committee. Also, per the purchasing requirements of Homeland Security, authorization is given for the county to finance upfront the cost of the emergency services equipment with the understanding that 100% federal/state reimbursement will be received. Also, all required documents are approved for signature. Motion Carried.

Old Business

-EDC Supplemental Funding Request -

14-M-023

Motion by Trisch, seconded by Kirkpatrick that the EDC funding request in the amount of \$15,000 be approved. Also, all necessary budget amendments and signatures are authorized. Roll Call Vote - Allen - yea, Bardwell - yea, Trisch - yea, Kirkpatrick - yea, Bierlein - yea. Nay - None. Motion Carried.

-Medical Examiner Hiring of Medical Examiner Investigators - Mike Hoagland has contacted the county's attorney. The attorney stated if Tuscola County paid for the training of the MEI's it would not be a significant factor in determining independent contractor status.

-Human Resource Coordinator -

14-M-024

Motion by Kirkpatrick, seconded by Bierlein that Erica Dibble be hired as the Human Resource/Fringe Benefit Coordinator at step 1 of the wage/step schedule \$39,768 (Contingent upon completion of satisfactory physical). Motion Carried.

-State Revenue Sharing -

14-M-025

Motion by Trisch, seconded by Kirkpatrick to approve the resolution expressing appreciation to the Governor for submitting an Executive Budget with full funding of state revenue sharing. Also, call upon the legislature to live up to their promise and adopt the Governor's recommendation for full state revenue sharing in FY 2015. Copies of this resolution to be forwarded to Governor Snyder, Senator Green, Representative Brown and the Michigan Association of Counties. Motion Carried.

-Level IV Equalization Director - Walt Schlichting has researched the Level IV classes. Walt stated the next beginning Level IV class will not be available until 2015. Mike Hoagland and Walt will work on a letter to Senator Green regarding registering for the Level IV class.

-Questions for Potential Land Acquisition - Please continue to submit any questions regarding the potential land acquisition to Mike Hoagland. Mike has also contacted the county's attorney for any questions that he may have. Mike will keep a master list of questions and then will submit the questions to Senator Green.

- Prosecutor Vacancy -

14-M-026

Motion by Kirkpatrick, seconded by Trisch that the county hiring freeze be lifted temporarily for the Prosecutor. Then the Prosecutor be authorized to refill a vacant assistant prosecutor position with the hiring freeze then being re-instated. Motion Carried.

-Denmark Township - Citizens Against Unfair Taxation has filed a lawsuit against Denmark Township. Water project discussed.

Recessed at 8:47 a.m.

Reconvened at 8:59 a.m.

Commissioner Allen excused at 8:59 a.m.

Correspondence/Resolutions-

Celebrating Tuscola Stars is looking for nominations to receive a 'Star' award.

Tuscola County received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

COMMISSIONER LIAISON COMMITTEE REPORTSKIRKPATRICK

Thumb Area Consortium/Michigan Works - Christine is going to look to see if she can assume this board's responsibility for Commissioner Kirkpatrick.

Board of Health

Community Corrections Advisory Board

Dept. of Human Services/Medical Care Facility Liaison

MI Renewable Energy Coalition

MEMS All Hazards - Working to make sure the generator is accessible

Cass River Greenways Pathway

Local Unit of Government Activity Report

Tuscola In Sync

ALLEN

Dispatch Authority Board

County Road Commission

Board of Public Works

Senior Services Advisory Council

Mid-Michigan Mosquito Control Advisory Committee

Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative

Dental Clinic for Indigents

Parks & Recreation

Local Unit of Government Activity Report - Akron Township is preparing to open bids for their water project.

TRISCH

Board of Health

Human Development Commission (HDC)

Planning Commission

Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment

Local Unit of Government Activity Report

BIERLEIN

Thumb Area Consortium/Michigan Works - Meets February 14, 2014.

TRIAD - Meeting held yesterday and project lifesaver was discussed.

Behavioral Health Systems Board - Meets February 27, 2014. This Board supported resolution regarding the funding.

Tuscola 2020

Recycling Advisory Committee

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

Multi County Solid Waste

Local Unit of Government Activity Report

Tuscola In Sync

MAC Board of Directors

Human Services Collaborative Council

BARDWELL

NACo - Commissioner Kirkpatrick and Commissioner Bierlein attending.

NACo Rural Action Caucus

Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment

Caro DDA/TIFA

MAC Economic Development/Taxation - Meets February 21, 2014

MAC 6th District

Local Unit of Government Activity Report

MAC – Past President

Closed Session - None

Other Business as Necessary - Mike Miller was contacted by the Undersheriff regarding the lobby project. Potential funding is coming from EDC through a grant. Christine will touch base with Steve to follow-up regarding the grant.

Refilling 911 Director Position - The Authority Board is meeting on February 18, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. and the Controller, Board of Commissioner Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Finance/Personnel Committee member are invited per the by-laws.

Extended Public Comment - None

Meeting adjourned at 9:19 a.m.

Jodi Fetting
Tuscola County Clerk